

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of controlling a solid-state image pickup apparatus with the step of determining the zoom position  $Z$  of a lens at the time of picking up an image. If the zoom position  $Z$  is above a lower value  $Z1$  but below a higher value  $Z2$ , first color difference gain processing is executed. If the zoom position  $Z$  is below or equal to  $Z1$ , it is determined whether or not the photometric data  $A$  of a pixel block  $A$  used for divisional photometry is greater than a threshold  $TH$ . If the answer of this step is positive, second color gain processing is executed; otherwise, the first processing is executed. On the other hand, if the zoom position  $Z$  is above or equal to  $Z2$  and if the photometric data  $B$  of a block  $B$  is greater than the threshold  $TH$ , the second color difference gain processing is executed; otherwise the first processing is executed.